

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 34744 291047Z
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15
NSC-05 H-02 SP-02 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /076 W
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R 290955Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7652

UNCLAS BANGKOK 34744

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, TH
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: AIR SIAM ANNOUNCES SUSPENSION OF OPERA-
TIONS

1. AIR SIAM MANAGING DIRECTOR VIVID VICHITVADAKARN,
CALLED A PRESS CONFERENCE DECEMBER 29 TO ANNOUNCE COMPANY
WOULD CEASE OPERATIONS JANUARY 1.

2. VIVID STATED A THREE-POINT PROPOSAL HAD BEEN SUBMITTED
TO THE COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY AS FOLLOWS:
BEGIN QUOTE: A. AIR SIAM ONLY WISHES TO BE A SMALL AIRLINE
WITHOUT IN ANY WAY COMPETING WITH THAI INTERNATIONAL.

B. SEVERAL BANKERS AND FINANCIERS ARE STILL WILLING TO
HELP AIR SIAM, AND THERE IS EVERY POSSIBILITY THAT THE AIR-
LINE COULD OPERATE ON A PROFITABLE BASIS IF THE GOVERNMENT
MAKES A POSITIVE POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING THE AIRLINES.

C. AIR SIAM IS WILLING TO CO-OPERATE WITH THAI
INTERNATIONAL. END QUOTE.

3. PRESS INDICATES VIVID ALSO DISCLOSED AIR SIAM HAD
PRE-SOLD AN ESTIMATED 100 MILLION BAHT (\$5 MILLION)
WORTH OF AIR TICKETS AND MONIES WILL NOT BE REFUNDED TO
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 34744 291047Z

BUYERS.

4. VIVID DECLARED EMPLOYEES ON PAYROLL WOULD CONTINUE TO
DRAW SALARIES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS RTG CLARIFIES ITS POLICIES.

5. AIR SIAM'S FLIGHT TO HONOLULU VIA HONG KONG AND TOKYO

WAS CANCELLED DECEMBER 29 ON GROUNDS AIRCRAFT HAD MECHANICAL
FAILURE.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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